

Message Text

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/S - MR. MOFFAT

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

FOR AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD

1. YOU SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT TO THE NAC AS SOON AS A MEETING CAN BE
CONVENED.

2. BEGIN TEXT: FOR OVER TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OUR
MUTUAL SECURITY HAS RESTED FIRST AND FOREMOST ON THE
NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. IT HAS BEEN CENTRAL TO
AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY; IT WILL REMAIN SO, FOR ONLY
IN OUR COMMON VISION AND THROUGH OUR JOINT EFFORTS
CAN WE DERIVE THAT STRENGTH OF PURPOSE WHICH WILL
ENSURE THAT OUR EFFORTS TO BUILD WORLD PEACE WILL SUCCEED.

AS I ASSUME THE OFFICE THE PRESIDENCY OF THE
UNITED STATES, I DO SO IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT WE ARE
PARTICIPATING WITH THE OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE WESTERN
ALLIANCE IN AN UNPRECEDENTED ENDEAVOR: TO GUARANTEE
THE SECURITY OF OUR PEOPLE THROUGH A STRONG DEFENSE,
TO SECURE THE FRUITS OF PEACE, AND TO ENSURE THE

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BENEFITS OF COOPERATION THROUGH OUR VIGOROUS PARTNER-

SHIP. THIS COUNTRY WILL MAINTAIN ITS OBLIGATIONS AND
MEET ITS COMMITMENT AS AN ALLY, JUST AS EACH OF MY

PREDECESSORS HAS DONE OVER THE PAST QUARTER CENTURY.
THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE HAS HAD MY UNSWERVING SUPPORT
THROUGHOUT MY CAREER AS A PUBLIC SERVANT, IN THE CONGRESS
AND AS VICE PRESIDENT. IT HAS HAD THAT BIPARTISON SUPPORT
IN THIS COUNTRY THAT IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF
AMERICAN POLICY; THIS WILL CONTINUE UNDER MY ADMINISTRA-
TION.

RECENTLY, ON THE OCCASION OF THE ALLIANCE'S TWENTY-
FIFTH ANNIVERSARY, WE REDEDICATED OURSELVES TO OUR COMMON
PURPOSES. THIS IS A NEW FOUNDATION ON WHICH WE CAN ALL
BUILD AN EVEN STRONGER RELATIONSHIP TO MEET THE NEW
CHALLENGES WE FACE ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC AND TO
CONTRIBUTE TO THE BUILDING OF A PEACEFUL WORLD.

THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL IS A FOCAL POINT FOR
SYNCHRONIZING OUR VARIOUS EFFORTS TO RELAX TENSIONS WITH
OUR ADVERSARIES. WE WILL SOON CONDUCT A REVIEW OF THE
ISSUES THAT FACE US IN ATTEMPTING TO CREATE A REALISTIC
FRAMEWORK FOR SECURITY FOR ALL OF EUROPE, AND FOR ACHIEV-
ING A STABLE BALANCE OF FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE THROUGH
NEGOTIATED REDUCTIONS. THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE
IN THIS FORUM TO PRACTICE THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE CONSUL-
TATIONS.

AT MY REQUEST, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER WILL
REMAIN IN OFFICE TO ENSURE CONTINUITY IN THE CONDUCT
OF OUR FOREIGN POLICIES. HE HAS MY FULL CONFIDENCE AND
SUPPORT. SIGNED, GERALD R. FORD. END TEXT.
KISSINGER

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